

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-21 (withdrawn)

Misnumbered Claims 37-43 have been renumbered 22-28.

Renumbered Claims 22-27 (withdrawn)

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Claim 28. (Currently amended) A method for enhancing wound healing at a wound site ~~via modulation of matrix metalloproteinase activity at the wound site~~, comprising applying to the wound site an effective amount of a therapeutic composition comprising:

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

C2 an active ingredient of inorganic solids comprising 10-80 parts by weight of potassium ions, 0.00001-20 parts by weight of zinc ions, 0.01 - 10 parts by weight of calcium ions and 1-40 parts by weight of rubidium ions.

Claim 29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the composition comprises from 40% to 80% by weight of solids extracted from of an aqueous oak bark extract.

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Claim 30. (Previously added) The method of claim 28, wherein said carrier is water.

Claim 31. (Previously added) The method of claim 28, wherein said carrier is cream based.

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Claim 32. (New) A composition for treating a skin disorder, comprising:

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier; and

an active ingredient of inorganic ions comprising rubidium and at least one ion selected from the group consisting of potassium, zinc, and calcium, wherein said composition is substantially free of lead.

C3 Claim 33. (New) A method for treating a skin disorder, comprising

providing a therapeutic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an active ingredient of inorganic ions comprising rubidium and at least one other ion selected from the group consisting of potassium, zinc, and calcium, wherein the composition is substantially free of lead; and

applying the composition to the skin.

Claim 34. (New) The method of Claim 33 wherein the skin disorder is selected from the group consisting of wrinkles, keloids, cancers, scars, psoriasis, insect bites, herpes simplex Type I, herpes simplex Type II, eczema, rosacea, fungal infection, minor infection, minor burns, sunburn, poison oak, poison ivy, poison sumac, wound healing, pyoderma, decubitus ulcers, tropical ulcers, impetigo, Kaposi sarcoma, warts, gangrene, ischemic ulcer, keratosis, precancerous lesions, basal cell epithelioma, squamous cell carcinoma, keratoacanthoma, and acute cancerous ulcers.

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